THE
ONE HUNDRED FORTY-FIRST
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE

CITY OF NEW BEDFORD
MASSACHUSETTS

FOR THE YEAR

JULY 1, 1993 - JUNE 30, 1994

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Board Members....2

Employees....3

Introduction....6

Service To Our Community....6

Youth Services....7

Reference and Research....8

Film Programs....9

Technical Services....9

Branch Services/Buttonwood Branch....9

Branch Services/Casa da Saudade Branch....10

Branch Services/Howland-Green Branch....10

Branch Services/Wilks Branch....11

Special Recognition....11

Trust Fund Accounts....12

Receipts and Expenses....13

Appendices....15

a. Eastern Region News
b. Child's Flower Garden at Buttonwood Branch
c. Bookmobile at Parker School
d. Re-opening of Branch Libraries Full Time
e. Friends of the New Bedford Free Public Library

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
NEW BEDFORD FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Mayor Rosemary S. Tierney, Chairperson,
ex-officio

Elsie Fraga, Vice-Chair
Roberta Barnet
Very Rev. Constantine S. Bebis
Carl Cruz
Rose Ferreira
Dr. John Fletcher
Dr. James R. Hayden
Michael Hogan
Elsie Souza

Theresa Coish, Director

LIBRARY EMPLOYEES FISCAL 1994

NAME	TITLE/LOCATION	CLASSIFICATION
Theresa Coish	Director	Director
Vicki Lukas	Coordinator of Technical Services	Librarian III
Paula Wallace	Coordinator of Reference Services	Librarian III
Gail Roberts	Coordinator of Youth Services	Librarian III
Carol Bellefeuille*	Community Service Librarian	Librarian II
Paul Cyr	Curator of Special Collections	Librarian II
Maria J. Carvalho*	Casa da Saudade Branch Head	Librarian II
Dale Easton*	Howland-Green Branch Head	Librarian II
Olivia Melo*	Wilks Branch Head	Librarian II
Sharon Pinho	Buttonwood Branch Head	Librarian II
Yvette Boisclair	Asst. to Reference Services Librarian	Librarian I
Pauline Bolduc	Reference Services	Librarian I
Susan Hughey*	Reference Services	Librarian I
Joan Barney	Reference Services	Library Assistant II
Philip Dimor	Technical Services	Library Assistant II
Maria Melo	Administration Office	Lib. Asst. to Director
Ruth Vital	Administration Office	Bookkeeper
Lisa Caron*	Howland-Green Branch	Library Assistant I
Rita Chapdelaine	Wilks Branch	Library Assistant I
Donna Cordeiro	Circulation Services	Library Assistant I
Elisabeth Figueiredo	Casa da Saudade Branch	Library Assistant I
Maria D. Gil	Circulation Services	Library Assistant I
Melanie Johnson*	Buttonwood Branch	Library Assistant I
Patricia Mello	Technical Services	Library Assistant I
Pamela Oliveira*	Buttonwood Branch	Library Assistant I
Zelinda Pereira*	Howland-Green Branch	Library Assistant I
Janice Pina	Youth Services	Library Assistant I
Janine Prescott*	Main Library	Library Assistant I
Pauline Sylvia Robillard	Wilks Branch	Library Assistant I
Maria Robertson	Circulation Services	Library Assistant I
Dineia Sylvia	Casa da Saudade Branch	Library Assistant I
Tammy Arruda*	Wilks Branch	Lib. Asst. I/20 hrs.

NAME	TITLE/LOCATION	CLASSIFICATION
Mary Jane Easton*	Circulation Services	Lib. Asst.I/20 hrs.
Jeanette Harrison	Buttonwood Branch	Lib. Asst. I /20 hrs.
Joyce Medeiros*	Circulation Services	Lib. Asst. I/20 hrs.
Anna Monteiro*	Casa da Saudade Branch	Lib. Asst. I/20 hrs.
MaryAnne Nelson	Wilks Branch	Lib. Asst. I/20 hrs.
Kathleen Correia	Technical Services	Library Aide II
Rhonda Capelo*	All Locations	Substitute
Jane Swiszcz	All Locations	Substitute
Reagan Barros	Buttonwood Branch	Page
Claribel Cordero	Wilks Branch	Page
Sergio Costa*	Circulation Services	Page
Paul Horvitz*	Circulation Services	Page
George Maria*	Circulation Services	Page
Kymisha Pina*	Circulation Services	Page
Genevra Roderick*	Circulation Services	Page
Nicole Rosa	Howland-Green Branch	Page
Sandra Santos	Casa da Saudade Branch	Page
Alan Young*	Circulation Services	Page
Kenneth Sylvia*	Branch Deliveries	Van Driver
James McDonald	Main Library	Monitor
Daryn Roderick	Howland-Green Branch	Monitor

*These individuals did not work the full fiscal year at the classification level listed.

EASTERN REGION EMPLOYEES FISCAL 1994

NAME	TITLE/LOCATION	CLASSIFICATION
William Schneller	Head of Interlibrary Loan & Sub-regional Services	Librarian II
Dolores Henry	Reference Services	Librarian I
Ernestina Furtado*	Special Collections	Librarian I
Beverly Gracia	Technical Services	Library Assistant II
Eileen Michaud	Interlibrary Loan	Library Assistant II
Andrea Monteiro*	Interlibrary Loan/Reference Services	Library Assistant I
Chad Sawyer	Interlibrary Loan	Page
Thomas Medeiros	Interlibrary Loan	Van Driver

*These individuals did not work the full fiscal year at the classification level listed.

INTRODUCTION

To the Honorable Rosemary S. Tierney, Mayor, members of the City Council, members of the Board of Library Trustees and residents of the City of New Bedford, I respectfully submit the Annual Report of the New Bedford Free Public Library System for July 1, 1993-June 30, 1994.

This System consists of a main library and four branches: the Buttonwood Community Branch Library, Casa da Saudade Branch Library, Howland-Green Branch Library and Wilks Branch Library.

The library's mission is to provide materials and services to help people obtain information to meet their personal, educational and professional needs, placing particular emphasis on youth and reference service and (to serve) as a repository for local recorded history and art.

The New Bedford Free Public Library has been a member of Southeastern Automated Libraries (SEAL) since 1987. This membership provides our community with access to the holdings of fifteen public libraries as well as Bristol Community College.

In addition, The New Bedford Free Public Library is the headquarters library for the New Bedford Sub-region consisting of Acushnet, Assonet, Carver, Cuttyhunk, Dartmouth, Fairhaven, Fall River, Freetown, Marion, Mattapoisett, Rochester, Somerset, Swansea, Wareham and Westport. As such, the main library provides to these communities reference support, resource sharing , daily weekday delivery and professional consultation. Funding for these services is provided by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners through the Eastern Massachusetts Regional Library System.

According to the standards set by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, our library is certified. It is also a federal government document depository.

SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY

January 1994 was an important month. Seventy two hours of service were added to the branch libraries' schedules; a partnership with the school

department resulted in partial funding for the bookmobile; and the Special Collections Department at the main library was reopened on Thursdays.

System-wide, circulation of library materials is on the rise.

FY94	FY93	FY92
377,983	363,900	335,027

The Board of Library Trustees, library administration and staff are extremely pleased with this trend. We are committed to the concept that the New Bedford Free Public Library is the "public's library". Toward this end, a customer satisfaction survey was kicked off by Mayor Rosemary S. Tierney in April during National Library Week. More than 1500 surveys were returned and tallied. Overwhelmingly, our community is more than 90% satisfied with the current level of service but indicated in the comment section that they want more: more reference materials, more hours of service at the branches, and more funding for the library in order to accomplish these goals.

Also in April, the library's collection of the John James Audubon "Birds of America" prints were on display for the community at the Bank of Boston. This four day exhibit was viewed by hundreds of community residents.

YOUTH SERVICES

To promote our services to the community, Youth Services Librarian Gail Roberts was a frequent guest on local radio shows and at meetings held by local community organizations.

At the main library and the branches, 355 children registered for the annual summer reading program. Throughout the year, each location hosted weekly preschool story times, with a total attendance of 2,043.

Interaction with local schools and pre-schools was also a priority for library staff. By forming a partnership with the New Bedford School Department, the bookmobile was able to regularly visit ten elementary schools which are not in walking distance to a library. From January to May, under the supervision of Community Service Librarian Carol Bellefeuille, an impressive 5,340 items were circulated from the bookmobile.

Moreover, 117 classes with a total attendance of 2,035 students visited our libraries and received an initial orientation. For those who couldn't make the trip, library staff reciprocated by visiting 168 classes and promoting library services to 3,277 students. Our outreach efforts paid off. These young people, their teachers and their parents came back to the library and borrowed 141,420 items. To support this activity, $9,410.00 were budgeted to buy more juvenile and young adult materials system-wide.

REFERENCE AND RESEARCH

In the Reference Department at the main library, equipment and resources were upgraded. A reference fax line is now available. Additional computer and CD-ROM work stations were set up to allow staff and patrons to cruise the information highway. As a result, our Reference and Inter-library Loan Departments were very active. Reference Coordinator Paula Wallace reported a total of 33,387 reference transactions system-wide. Interlibrary Loan Librarian William Schneller reported receiving a total of 5,698 requests.

In the Special Collections Department, equipment was also upgraded and CD-ROM products were purchased. These products are very cost effective because they allow patrons to be more independent and thorough in their research and not so dependent on staff to demonstrate how to use the various printed resources. Also, CD-ROM products allowed us to accommodate more researchers. On any given day or night, these work stations were always occupied.

In FY94, $58,827.48 were budgeted to support reference and research services; $19,195.00 were budgeted for non-fiction and $32,315 were budgeted for periodical subscriptions.

As a research facility, our library also received good visibility, both locally and nationally. On the local level, Simmons College, Graduate School of Library and Information Science, recognized our library as an internship site for their Archives Management Internship Program. Under the supervision of Staff Archivist Ernestina Furtado, an intern worked at the main library, at no cost to the city, preparing one segment of our Civil War Collection for use by researchers. On the national level, Curator of Special Collections Paul Cyr appeared on the WGBH broadcast of "The Lepers of Buzzards Bay". He was

also taped by WXXI, located in Rochester New York, for an upcoming documentary on the underground railroad.

FILM PROGRAMS

At the main library, film programs were offered weekly from September through June. There were a total of 39 programs with a total attendance of 647. The average weekly attendance was 16.

TECHNICAL SERVICES

Once described by Trustee Reverend Constantine Bebis as the heart and soul of the library, this department was responsible for the ordering, receiving, processing and distribution of all library materials system-wide. Coordinator of Technical Services Vicki Lukas reported that 5,328 new titles were received in addition to the standing orders already in place.

In FY94, the total system materials budget was $211,409.71.

BRANCH SERVICES

Clearly the branches have been very active since their reopening. Circulation has increased. More children are registering for library cards. More adult students are coming in with specific needs. More schools are requesting appointments for class field trips. More teachers are using our resources in their classrooms, and more requests are being received for meeting room use.

BUTTONWOOD BRANCH LIBRARY

Unexpectedly at the Buttonwood Branch, young people and their parents elected to give something back to the library and the community. This dedicated group of library users planted a child's flower garden all around the library grounds. The result was a beautiful garden of color which bloomed all summer long for the benefit of the whole community.

In addition this location hosted AIDS Awareness Day by displaying in its meeting room quilt panels loaned by the Massachusetts Names Project.

More than two hundred people from the community came to view the display.

The "Juried Photography Exhibition", sponsored by the South Shore Art Center and the Polaroid Foundation was also located at this site. Again, hundreds of residents came to view the exhibit.

A special grant was obtained by Sharon Pinho, Branch Head, for a five-week adult reading and discussion program entitled, "Different People, Different Places: Native Americans, Europeans and the Environments They Created." Total attendance was 129.

To maintain and develop Buttonwood's collection, $17,600.00 were budgeted in FY94.

CASA DA SAUDADE BRANCH LIBRARY

The Casa da Saudade Branch is the only Portuguese library of its type in the country. Under the direction of Branch Head Maria Jose Carvalho, staff at this location initiated numerous, ongoing outreach projects including appearances on community programs aired on the Portuguese Channel. On several occasions, Mrs. Carvalho was a special guest, with a collection of Portuguese library materials in tow, at local elementary schools, senior citizen complexes, and UMass Dartmouth. To target the younger set, bi-lingual story hours were developed and the CYC, "Casa Youth Corner:, was formed. This proved to be a very successful program with a weekly attendance of more than 30 children. Staff have also worked extensively with the Immigrants Assistance Center and will continue to do so. In April, Casa da Saudade celebrated it's 23rd anniversary with a program honoring local Portuguese poet, Joao Teixeira de Medeiros, which was well received by the Portuguese community.

In FY94, this branch's materials budget was $14,950.00.

HOWLAND-GREEN BRANCH LIBRARY

The Howland-Green Branch Library is also moving ahead with community outreach, offering a variety of programs for preschool and older children.

Branch Head, Dale Easton, has analyzed the needs and requests of the Howland-Green Community. For the adults, he is developing the collection in the areas of repair manuals, biographies, career information, civil service test preparation and recreational reading. For the younger set, more paperback books for recreational reading and more materials for completing school assignments are being purchased. In addition, materials in Spanish are being added on an ongoing basis.

To support collection development for this branch, $15,810.00 were budgeted.

WILKS BRANCH LIBRARY

The Wilks Branch Library serves a large population. At this time, it is the only branch library open on Saturdays. It is heavily used by both children and adults with an ever growing demand for Portuguese materials. Branch Head, Olivia Melo, has become actively involved with the North End Business Association. She is committed to making this branch an integral part of the north end community and has initiated well-attended programs intended to attract not only the regular library users, but also the non-users. The result of this hard work is impressive. Circulation is up 10% as compared to FY93 and 25% as compared to FY92.

The materials budget for this location was $17,977.97 in FY94.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

In June, Yvette Boisclair retired from the Reference Department. Ms. Boisclair worked for the library for 47 years. Both staff and patrons miss her and wish her the best.

TRUST FUND ACCOUNTS
(JULY 1, 1993-JUNE 30, 1994)

FUND NAME	ON HAND 6/30/93	RECEIVED	EXPENDED	BALANCE 6/30/93
Frederick S. Allen	251.34	63.92	.00	315.26
Philip & Roberta S. Barnet	214.53	344.69	191.83	367.39
James B. Congdon	147.09	14.90	.00	161.99
George Crocker	358.28	541.65	.00	899.93
Oliver Crocker	299.43	63.92	.00	363.35
George Howland	198.27	60.93	.00	259.20
Sylvia Ann Howland	852.19	10,833.70	6,450.71	5,235.18
Susan Jones	1,306.84	557.50	1,331.99	532.35
Kempton/Sarah Potter	1,491.72	25,180.86	26,561.94	110.64
Elizabeth Mackie	298.95	63.92	.00	362.87
Charles W. Morgan	253.39	63.92	.00	317.31
Bernard A. Perry	58.19	63.92	.00	122.11
Clara Tripp	1,884.97	1,543.63	1,561.17	1,867.43
Florence Waite	2,289.68	512.16	2,196.92	604.92
Patty Wilcox	1,288.33	186.10	109.58	1,364.85
Wilks Fund	3,853.37	45,931.67	48,486.06	1,298.98
Charles Wood	294.78	59.09	.00	353.87
Chuck Woo	.00	250.35	57.08	193.27
TOTAL	**15,341.35**	**86,336.83**	**86,947.28**	**14,730.90**

RECEIPTS FY94

Municipal Appropriation	$	1,041,576.00
Municipal Equalization Grant		77,202.81
Library Incentive Grant		49,961.00
Non Resident Circulation Grant		6,579.31
FY93 MEG & LIG Balances Brought Forward		81,359.59
Bequest Funds		
Income		93,227.95
Balance FY93 brought forward		17,401.87
Grand Total	**$**	**1,367,308.53**

EXPENSES FY94

Municipal Appropriations		
100 Account Salaries and Wages	856,461.00	
200 Account Charges and Services	127,040.00	
400 Account Supplies and Materials	58,075.00	
Total		1,041,576.00
Municipal Equalization Grant		
100 Account Salaries and Wages	26,301.25	
200 Account Charges & Services	5,655.36	
400 Account Supplies & Materials	36,662.84	
800 Account Capitol Outlay	10,814.95	
Total		79,434.40
Trust Funds		94,671.48
Non Resident Circulation		
800 Account Capitol Outlay		1,354.87
Balances Encumbered		
Library Incentive Grant	99,922.00	
Municipal Equalization Grant	29,167.00	
Non Resident Circulation	5,224.44	
Trust Funds	15,958.34	
Total		150,271.78
Grand Total	**$**	**1,367,308.53**

EASTERN REGION RECEIPTS FY94

Eastern Massachusetts Regional Library Program	$266,452.00

EASTERN REGION EXPENSES FY94

Eastern Massachusetts Regional Library Program		
	100 Account Salaries and Wages	165,545.00
	200 Account Charges and Services	10,311.00
	400 Account Supplies and Materials	57,511.00
	800 Capital Outlay	33,085.00
Total EMRLS Program		$266,452.00

NEW BEDFORD

The Buttonwood Community Library, a Branch of the New Bedford Free Public Library (Theresa Coich, Director; Sharon Pinho, Branch Librarian), located in the corner of Buttonwood Park, recently presented "A Child's Garden of Flowers." The program was held on May 23, and children and parents were invited to plant their favorite flower to help beautify the Library landscape. The front lawn saw many little helping hands putting beautiful blooms into the ground. Some parents brought donations of plants, but the majority of them were donated by Ron McKuen of the Buttonwood Greenhouse. In addition to the donated plants, Nancy Feeney, an involved parent from the Pre-School Story Hour, provided perennials from a $50 donation from the Friends of Buttonwood Park. Another very involved mother was Robin Meek, the originator of the idea. She was determined to institute a program of this kind because all of her hard work involved in planting 100 daffodils along the walkway of the Park had, earlier in the year, been swept away by anonymous flower lovers who picked all the blossoms. During the program it was stressed that children should respect nature and the environment. It takes a lot of effort to put plants into the ground and flowers should be left where they are for everyone to enjoy.

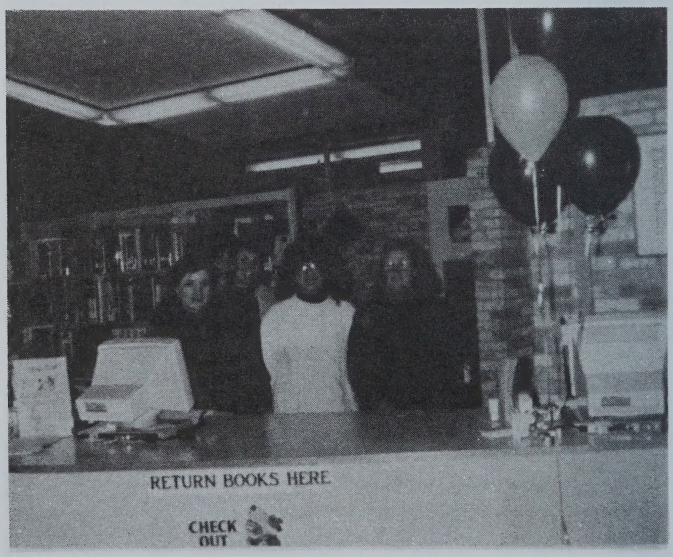
Melanie Johnson and Pam Oliveira, both Library Assistants, publicized the program and Ms. Johnson incorporated it into her weekly Pre-School Story Hour. The children had stories read to them, and the activity for the day was the planting. Two sessions were held: one for ages three to five at 10 a.m.; and a second for ages six and up at 3 p.m. Cable 13 News did the taping and the segment aired on May 26.

Sharon Pinho said that the program was really a lot of fun and that it's perfect for small-budget libraries as there is no cost involved. "Most important is that the children were taught to respect nature and the world around them and, to top it off, the Library grounds are beautiful."

A very successful program, with cooperation from many quarters!

IMPROVING BUTTONWOOD BRANCH. Children and parents work in the garden of New Bedford's Buttonwood Community Library to brighten up and improve its grounds.

WE WILL BE OPEN MON.-SAT. AS OF JANUARY 19


RETURN BOOKS HERE
CHECK OUT

FRIENDS OF THE NEW BEDFORD FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Executive Board Members:

Georgette Simon, President
Susan Hughey, Vice President
Alice Fulhan, Treasurer
Annette Dwyer, Financial Treasurer
Mady Scheinman, Corresponding Secretary
Barbara Nelson, Secretary
Roberta Barnet, Program Chairperson
Frederick Matthew, Publicity Chairperson

Board of Directors:

Mildred Barry
Theresa Coish
Yvonne Fontaine
Rebecca Mendes
Philomena Nichols
Ruth Schleweis
Janice Dean-Souza

This past year marked the 21st anniversary of the Friends. Under the leadership of Georgette Simon, 5 adult programs were held for the New Bedford community. They were:

October 21	Book discussion by author Marcia Chellis plus 21st anniversary celebration
February 17	Pair Point Cup Plates presented by Mrs. White of Westport
March 31	Trip to Antarctic slide show by Mark Rasmussin of the Coalition for Buzzard's Bay
April 19	Personal Survival in the 90's: How to Avoid Becoming a Victim, presented by Thomas Sellew
May 26	Annual meeting

All of these programs were free and open to the public.

In addition, the Friends generously donated $600.00 to the library's Youth Services Department for programming and book purchases; $150.00 to the Buttonwood Community Branch to purchase 10 additional volumes of the Library of America collection; $220.87 to replace the starter on the Bookmobile; $500.00 to restore a library painting and 12 copies of the *Strike of '28.*

Lastly, at the end of the fiscal year, the Friends finalized plans to upgrade all seven photocopiers at the main library and the branches to new, efficient, handicapped accessible models.

The library has been very fortunate and is very appreciative of its Friends. Indeed, the Friends have been true friends, not only to the library but also to the New Bedford community.

ANNUAL REPORT

New Bedford Free Public Library, submitting Annual Report for Fiscal Year 1994.

IN CITY COUNCIL, November 10, 1994

Received and ordered printed in City Documents.

Janice A. Davidian, City Clerk

Attest:

City Clerk